

Yea on H.R. 2399, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to combat the crime of alien smuggling and related activities (Roll Call 400)

Yea on H.R. 1722, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 601 Banyan Trail in Boca Raton, Florida, as the "Leonard W. Herman Post Office" (Roll Call 401)

Aye on Democratic Motion to Table Resolution Raising a Question of Privileges of the House (Roll Call 402)

#### IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES CLARK WIDER, SR.

#### HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. James Clark Wider, Sr. for his tremendous contributions to the art world and to his country. Originally from Columbia, South Carolina, Mr. Wider served his country for 20 years in both the United States Army and Marine Corps. Today he is the owner of the Southwinds Art Gallery and Studio in Colorado Springs, where he not only creates exceptional artwork, but he also educates others about the importance of art to the maintenance of a culture and civilization.

Mr. Wider's extraordinary work clearly demonstrates his love of humanity and appreciation for variety in artwork. By capturing and conveying emotion in addition to riveting imagery, Mr. Wider offers an intimate glance at bygone eras and other worlds, bringing history to life. Scenes from Mr. Wider's childhood are the basis for his "Downhome Series" while the culture and customs of the Massai Tribe of Kenya are the inspiration for his African Heritage Series. Mr. Wider has used his talent to celebrate all the positive aspects of African-American heritage. Instilling the black community throughout the country with immense pride in its history, Mr. Wider believes that it is necessary to acknowledge the struggles of African Americans, for in so doing we also acknowledge their strength and invincible will.

Mr. Wider's positive and celebratory attitude enables him to connect with and inspire people of all races and ages. Educating generations about art, he seeks to encourage all of us to become art lovers and collectors. Mr. Wider's numerous awards and recognitions include an honorary membership in the Austin, Texas Chapter of the NAACP, life membership of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, a 1992 "Artist of the Year" Award from the Austin Chapter of the National Business League, and a listing in the premier edition of Who's Who Among Blacks in Colorado Springs.

The nation as a whole has profoundly benefited from his influence. In him, the African-American community possesses an exceptional role model and the art world has a true champion. The people of Colorado's Fifth Congressional District are privileged that this great American has chosen to call our community home; Mr. Wider is an asset to the art world and to his country, and we are profoundly thankful for his numerous contributions.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE POLICE UNITY TOUR

#### HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Police Unity Tour which honors the memory and courage of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty and raises money for the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. Over one thousand police officers from around the country have completed the tour, four hundred of whom left from the Township of Morris, Morris County, New Jersey, a vibrant community I am proud to represent and rode over 300 miles to the Memorial in Washington.

In May 1997 the Police Unity Tour was organized by Officer Patrick P. Montuore of the Florham Park Police Department, with the hope of raising public awareness of police officers who have died in the line of duty and to honor their sacrifices.

The tour started in 1997 with 18 riders on a four day fund-raising bicycle ride from Florham Park, N.J. to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington. This past year they had over one thousand riders nationwide who made the trip. Inspired by their commitment and their motto, "WE RIDE FOR THOSE WHO DIED," the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund has selected their organization to be the sponsor of the Museum's Hall of Remembrance.

Madam Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Police Unity Tour on their 11th Anniversary of honoring fallen law enforcement heroes!

#### RECOGNIZING THE COMMUNITY OF TIPTON, KANSAS

#### HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the citizens of Tipton, Kansas for continuing efforts to sustain and revitalize their community.

Most communities in rural America would like to see future generations return home and keep alive its way of life. Tipton residents are no different. They want to provide the next generation the opportunity to continue the quality rural lifestyle the previous generation afforded them. The difference is that this community knows its future is in its hands. So they have volunteered these hands to construct what is needed to attract and retain the youth who, too often, leave for the "city."

In the summer of 2003, the parents and students of Tipton were faced with the impending consolidation of their elementary school—leaving the students with up to a 20 mile bus drive and the town with one less way to attract and retain businesses and the families they employ. Although the long drive would be taxing on the students and parents, convenience wasn't the catalyst for the action that was about to take place that summer. Mayor Adriane Arnoldy was among those who knew what

losing the school would mean to Tipton. He told me, "Our parents faced the prospect of their children being enrolled in three different schools in three different towns. Losing our elementary school was not an option because we knew that as schools leave communities, so go the communities themselves."

Thinking ahead about the future effects of losing the elementary school, the town voted to create its own school—the Tipton Christian School, a private K–6 facility. Those committed hands of Tipton's residents worked together and completed the new school in less than two months with all volunteer labor. Private donations funded the cost of the new facility and continue to finance school operations to date. The construction and funding of a new school in 41 days is just one example of how this community stands up against the prevailing winds of consolidation and urbanization plaguing rural America. I can only imagine that the residents of Tipton will make sure this school succeeds in the same way Tipton Catholic Senior High School has since 1919.

During a period when small towns throughout the country have experienced the shuttered doors of a main street no longer able to keep customers in the shops, efforts like these have helped Tipton maintain an active business community. Hollerich Construction is an example of a business matching the commitment made by residents. The company has expanded its presence in Tipton, along with Great Plains Manufacturing who recently doubled the size of its agricultural equipment manufacturing plant.

Tipton residents have shown character, determination and the high value they place on family, friends and neighbors. It is their hope that these ideals will be an example to some of the troubled boys at the recently opened Tipton Academy, housed in the closed elementary school building. Boys who come to the academy are there to experience a different setting, a positive one. One way to do that is to have the boys involved in the community. They contributed to the construction of a kitchen, eating and serving area in the new community building that Tipton residents use for all sorts of community events and celebrations.

For rural communities to survive and prosper, citizens must be willing to create their own opportunities for success. Ongoing efforts to revitalize Tipton are an example of how hard work, vision and involvement can create just such an opportunity. Citizens throughout Kansas are working together to enhance the quality of life in their communities. Tipton is a developing success story that demonstrates how teamwork and creative thinking can make a positive difference in rural America.

#### HONORING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE

#### HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB) on the occasion of its 90th anniversary this month. When the United States entered World War I in 1917, the army selected